

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 04357 01 OF 02 121725Z

46

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06

AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OMB-01 ABF-01 TRSE-00

AID-05 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 IOE-00 HEW-02 SAM-01 DHA-02 EB-07 /120 W

----- 053343

P 121719Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7782

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 04357

NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, UNESCO, US, XA

SUBJECT: UNESCO -- THE US -- AFRICA -- AN ASSESSMENT

AFTER CUTTING OFF OF U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS

1. CONGRESSIONAL ACTION CUTTING U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNESCO NOW MAKE OUR ARREARS APPROXIMATELY 45 MILLION DOLLARS. UNLESS AT LEAST THE 74 ARREARAGES OF APPROXIMATELY 3.5 MILLION IS PAID THE U.S. WILL AUTOMATICALLY LOSE ITS VOTE AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN NAIROBI IN OCTOBER.

2. THE EFFECT OF THE U.S. CUT OFF HAS CAUSED A CURTAILMENT OF UNESCO PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND A REDUCTION IN STAFF MAINLY CUTTING BACK ON FILLING VACANCIES IN THE SECRETARIATE. SOME OF THIS CRUNCH HAS BEEN MADE UP BY THE RECEIPT OF LOANS FROM ARAB STATES, SEE SEPTEL, BUT THIS SOURCE CAN HARDLY BE CONSIDERED AS A DESIRABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION.

3. AT PRESENT THERE ARE MORE AMERICANS EMPLOYED BY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 04357 01 OF 02 121725Z

UNESCO IN PROFESSIONAL CATEGORIES THAN ANY OTHER

NATIONALITY. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL HAS ANNOUNCED THAT NO UNFAIR ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST AMERICANS BECAUSE OF OUR U.S. NON-PAYMENT AND HE MEANS WHAT HE SAYS. NEVERTHELESS, THERE ARE PERSISTENT OVERTONES OF LOWER LEVEL ACTIONS WHICH MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR AMERICANS. SUPERVISORS ARE SOMEWHAT DUBIOUS OF RECOMMENDING AMERICANS FOR ADVANCEMENT, OR NEW POST, IF THERE IS UNCERTAINTY ABOUT CONTINUED U.S. INVOLVEMENT WITH THE ORGANIZATION. IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT THERE SHOULD BE SOME HOSTILITY TOWARDS AMERICANS BY NATIONALS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES IN THE SECRETARIATE AS A RESULT OF OUR FUND CUT OFF.

4. THE NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL, AFRICAN AMADOU-MAHTAR M'BOW OF SENEGAL, OPPOSED THE ARAB MOVES TO CENSURE ISRAEL. HE ACTIVELY COOPERATED WITH THE U.S. BEHIND THE SCENES BEFORE HE WAS ELECTED AS DG IN AN ATTEMPT TO BLOCK THE ACTION VOTED BY THE 1974 GENERAL CONFERENCE. HE CLAIMS THAT HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN BLOCKING THE OAU MOVE TO SUPPORT OUSTER OF ISRAEL FROM THE UN. WE KNOW THAT HIS SUPPORT WAS CRUCIAL IN THE PASSAGE OF THE PRO-ISRAEL RESOLUTION ON UNESCO REGIONS ADOPTED AT THE FALL EXECUTIVE BOARD.

5. HOWEVER, IT IS HIGHLY DOUBTFUL THAT THE DG HAS THE POWER TO EFFECT THE KIND OF CHANGES REQUIRED BY THE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION. THESE REQUIRE VOTES BY MEMBER STATES AND ARE NOT ACTIONS THAT THE DG HIMSELF CAN TAKE. THE SECRETARIATE IN GENERAL AND DG M'BOW IN PARTICULAR ARE, THEREFORE, BEING PENALIZED NOW FOR THEIR OWN ACTIONS IN MANAGING THE ORGANIZATIONS BUT RATHER FOR POLITICAL VOTES CAST BY MEMBER STATES AT CONFERENCES. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE ISSUES IN QUESTION ARE MUCH BROADER THAN UNESCO AND ENGAGE THE VITAL POLICY INTEREST OF MANY MEMBER STATES, IT IS HIGHLY DOUBTFUL IF M'BOW CAN GET THE MEMBER STATES TO CHANGE THEIR POSITIONS. UNESCO SIMPLY IS NOT HELD IN SUFFICIENT PRIORITY BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATES, EVEN MOST AFRICAN STATES, FOR THEM TO MAKE CHANGES IN IMPORTANT POLICY ISSUES IN ORDER TO HELP THE ORGANIZATION.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 04357 01 OF 02 121725Z

ZATION. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT, COMBINED WITH OTHER BILATERAL ACTIONS CHANGES CAN BE HAD.

6. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE AFRICANS IN PARTICULAR WILL NOT BE RESENTFUL AND ANGERED IF M'BOW IS PUT IN GREAT DIFFICULTY AND THEY WILL SURELY BLAME THE U.S. IN FACT, IT IS OUR ASSESSMENT THAT CHANGES OF RACIAL BIGOTRY WILL BEGIN TO BE LEVIED AGAINST THE U.S. (IF

NOT PUBLICLY, SURELY IN PRIVATE) FOR
ALLEGEDLY CUTTING THE GROUND FROM UNDER M'BOW AND THAT
THE MORE RADICAL AND MILITANT ELEMENTS WILL NOT PASS UP
THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SCORE POINT IT UST BE REMEMBERED
THAT M'BOW IS THE FIRST AND ONLY AFRICAN TO HEAD A
MAJOR SPECIALIZED AGENCY AND THE 1976 GENERAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 04357 02 OF 02 121732Z

46

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06

AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OMB-01 ABF-01 TRSE-00

AID-05 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 IOE-00 HEW-02 SAM-01 DHA-02 EB-07 /120 W

----- 053455

P 121719Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7783

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 04357

UNESCO

CONFERENCE IS TO BE HELD IN AFRICA.

7. IT SHOULD ALSO BE KEPT UPPERMOST IN MIND THAT U.S.
IS WITHOUT ANY ACTIVE SUPPORT FOR ITS FUNDS
CUT-OFF WITHIN THE WESTERN EUROPEAN "NINE", THE NORDIC
COUNTRIES OR JAPAN. WHATEVER CRITICISM THERE HAS BEEN
WITHIN ACADEMIC-INTELLECTUAL-SCIENTIFIC CIRCLES OF
WEO'S RESPECTIVE DOMESTIC PUBLIC OPINIONS.HAS NOT BEEN
REFLECTED IN OR CARRIED OVER TO THE OFFICIAL POLICIES
OF ANY EXCEPT FRANCE AND SWITZERLAND WHOSE NATIONAL
LEGISLATURES VOTED A TOKEN TEN PERCENT CUT IN THEIR
PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNESCO FOR 1975. HOWEVER
THE FRENCH AND SWISS HAVE TOLD US THEY FULLY INTEND TO

MAKE UP THESE CUTS THIS YEAR. INDEED, VIRTUALLY ALL
WEO'S APPEAR TO BE MAKING A SPECIAL EFFORT TO PAY
IN ADVANCE OR AT LEAST MAKE PROMPT PAYMENT OF THEIR 1976
CONTRIBUTIONS. IN SUM, IT IS AN UNPLEASANT BUT CLEAR
REALITY THAT PREDICTABLE CRITICISM OF THE U.S. FROM
ITS KNOWN ADVERSARIES IS, IN PRACTICAL TERMS, AT LEAST
COMPLEMENTED BY A COMPLETE LACK OF OFFICIAL SUPPORT
FROM OUR FRIENDS FOR THE CONTINUED U.S. FINANCIAL BOY-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 04357 02 OF 02 121732Z

COTTING OF UNESCO.

8. OUR FINAL ASSESSMENT IS THAT UNESCO WILL CONTINUE
ALBEIT SEVERLY CRIPPLED, WHETHER OR NOT THE U.S. PAYS
ITS CONTRIBUTION. THERE WILL BE A MAJOR CURTAILMENT
OF PROGRAMS BUT THE ORGANIZATION WILL NOT COME APART.
THE SOVIETS WILL SURELY MOVE INTO THE VACUUM AS THE
NEW MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR AND THERE IS STRONG EVIDENCE THAT
THIS IS ALREADY TAKING PLACE. THE SOVIETS OR THEIR
SATELLITES HAVE THREE OF THE TOP SEVEN POSTS IN THE
UNESCO SCIENCE SECTOR. THE NEW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
GENERAL FOR EDUCATION, THE LARGEST AND MOST IMPORTANT
UNESCO AREA, IS A RUSSIAN. HE HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO
BRING IN HIS FELLOW COUNTRYMEN TO KEY JOBS. THE
SOVIETS SEND DELEGATIONS TO ALL IMPORTANT UNESCO
MEETINGS AND THEIR DELEGATIONS ARE OF HIGHEST QUALITY.
THE SOVIET MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD IS A MAN OF
LONG UN EXPERIENCE, HAVING BEEN A DEPUTY SECRETARY
GENERAL OF THE UN. THE SOVIET UNESCO DELEGATION IS
THREE TIMES THE SIZE OF THE U.S. DELEGATION, HEADED BY
AMBASSADOR ALEXANDER S. PIRADOV.

9. CONCLUSIONS: U.S. PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE WILL
INEVITABLY DEMINISH. SOVIET AND BLOC INFLUENCE WILL
GO UP PROPORTIONATELY. THE ORGANIZATION WILL SURVIVE
BUT ONLY WITH GREAT STRUGGLE. THE AFRICANS, AND OTHER
NAONNON-WHITELITIES, PRIVATELY IF NOT PUBLICLY, WILL BLAME
THE U.S. IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT THE U.S. WILL BE
CHARGED WITH RACISM AND BIGOTRY IN SINGLING OUT THE
FIRST AND ONLY UN AGENCY HEADED BY A BLACK AFRICAN FOR
PUNISHMENT AND FOR NOT FULLY PARTICIPATING (ASSUMING
WE ARE ONLY IN OBSERVER STATUS) IN THE UPCOMING GENERAL
CONFERENCE IN KENYA.

RUSH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PARIS04357
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760053-1200
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760255/aaaabwbg.tel
Line Count: 218
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNESCO -- THE US -- AFRICA -- AN ASSESSMENT AFTER CUTTING OFF OF U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS
TAGS: PORG, EFIN, US, XA, UNESCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006